

Amendments of the Specification

Please make the following amendments to correct informalities contained in the specification.

Page 2, lines 3-9 should be amended to read: The present invention is an improvement upon existing lancets. It is relatively easy to use and load with lancets presently on the market. It is quiet to use. The lancet tip moves quickly (into the skin and from the skin) and without vibration or oscillation to generate a quick and straight piercing in the user, both aspects reducing pain associated with the lancing process. The piercing depth can also be easily controlled or adjusted. In short, the device of the present invention can be customized to a particular user's desires and repeated over and over so that each piercing is substantially the same.

Page 6, lines 1-10 should be amended to read: The mentioned aperture 71a opens into tubular portion 71 projecting forwardly from the gripping portion 74. This tubular portion 71 has an outer diameter D5, slightly less than the inner diameter D3' of the inner shaft 40 to let the tubular portion slide within and relative to the inner shaft. A plurality of tangs 77, formed between slots 78 are formed at the distal or front end 72 of the member 70. A guide, or projection 79, also extends radially outward from the end 72. The tangs ~~72~~ 77 provide a spring action ensuring the tubular section can be inserted into the inner shaft and slid longitudinally therein. They 79 also ensure the guide 79 is biased radially outwardly. This guide 79 is configured so as to project through and move relative to (when the arming member 70 is moved) both the longitudinal slot 44 formed in the inner shaft 40 and the longitudinal slot 54 formed in the outer shaft 50.

Page 7, lines 15-21 should be amended to read: The second housing member 130 has a central annular opening 136 therein, along with a two downwardly extending clips 137 to

accommodate and hold a button switch 150. The opening or window 138 is for viewing the numbers (171) printed or molded on the dial adjuster 160. Internal ribs (not shown in Figure 1) are also molded within the second housing component 130 to space the component from the internal mechanics or to hold the respective parts in the respective positions relative to one another. While the housing is shown as two pieces, it is appreciated that it can, if desired, be a single piece.

Page 8, lines 19-24 should be amended to read: In use, the user puts his/her skin against the front opening 104 of the cap 100 and activates the device 10. Once activated, the tip 64 of the lancet is propelled from within the cap 100 to outside the cap 100 and the point 66 moves from a withdrawn position (with the cap/housing) to it a “piercing position,”² that position furthest from the front end 102 of the cap 100 to the lance the user. After reaching the just noted piercing point, the tip 64 and point 66 withdraw to a position back within the cap 100/and housing 110, 130.

Page 9, lines 17-28 should be amended to read: The details of the interrelationship between the dial adjuster 160 and the follower 180 are shown in Figures 10-13. Specifically, as with the other components, the follower 180, which cooperates with the dial adjuster 160, has a front end 182, a rear end 183, an outer surface 181 and an inner surface 184. Similarly, the dial adjuster 160 has a front end 162, a rear end 163, an outer surface 161 and an inner surface 164. Both the follower 180 and the dial adjuster 160 are tubular annulets and have threading. Specifically the dial adjuster 160 has a circumferential external helical troughs 193 (internal threads) in the inner surface 184 of the follower 160. As a result, the external ~~threads~~ threads 166 mate with the internal threads 193 to permit rotation of the dial adjuster 160 relative to the follower 180, or of the follower relative to the dial adjuster.

Page 16, lines 13-23 should be amended to read: a) While the magnet forces from the magnet 20 radiate to pull or retract the collar 30 (now well forward of the magnet), the momentum of the moving collar and outer shaft 50 drive the lancet to the furthest position in the front 102 of the device 10. The advancement of the lancer 60 is can be stopped when the front end 32 of the collar 30 bumps into the dial 170 of the adjuster 160. At such point, all forward motion of the lancet 60 stops immediately. However, ideally the advancement of the lancet 60 stops due to the properly balanced magnetic force. Such forces are sufficient enough to control the momentum of the collar/lancet. It should be noted that one of the significant advantages of the present device is that it is silent in use because parts do not bump or contact one another during motion. b) The crest 158 continues to be no longer seated with the channel 35 in the collar 30 allowing relative motions between the inner shaft 40 and outer shaft 50.

Page 16, lines 27-31; page 17, lines 1, 2 should be amended to read: Figure 23 shows the device 10 and lancet 60 after achieving the piercing position and in a retracting position, wherein the lancet is transitioning back to the steady state condition. Puncturing of the user has ~~occurred~~ and the lancet is withdrawing into the cap. In particular: a) The magnetic forces from the magnet 20 retract the collar 30 towards the magnet. The lancet 60 having been well forward of the magnet is now drawn towards the magnet. As a result, the point 66 of the tip 64 of the lancet 60, along with the outer shaft 50, move back within the cap 100 and behind cap opening 104 to a withdrawn position.

Page 17, lines 5-8 should be amended to read: c) The point 66 of the lancet 60 is well behind (as opposed to in front) the imaginary plain of cap's 100 opening 104. The lancet 60 and its respective tip 64 and point 66 are ~~withdrawing~~ withdrawn, completely protected by the cap 100 and moving away from the cover's opening 104.